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Subject: Existing Templates

Posted by [AndyS](#) on Wed, 04 Jan 2006 03:09:57 GMT

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Hello all, just downloaded and installed OpenVZ, and i must say its a big improvement over other VPS systems that i have tested IMHO.

Just a quickie thou... I have currently installed the Fedora and CentOS templates supplied, and built the cache however noticed a few vital (well, not quite vital) utils are missing.

To add these, is it just a case of adding the necessary package name into either default.list or minimal.list files for example;

to include mysql to the default.list, just add the line mysql-server somewhere. or will i need to find all the dependency files as well.

I know its quite a novice question, and prob has been answered somewhere in the manuals. But i've read so much, i prob missed it a hundred and one times

Andy

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates

Posted by [kir](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 12:27:04 GMT

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You are right, all you have to do is to add, say, mysql-server into some .list file and run vzpkgcache. Deps will be resolved on the fly - that's the beauty of our template tools.

You can also create a new .list file, say, full.list, based on default.list or minimal.list.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates

Posted by [kir](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 12:28:43 GMT

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Another possibility - if you do not need mysql-server in every VPS - is to install it right after creating a VPS. You do like this:

```
vzctl start NNN
```

```
vzyum NNN install mysql-server
```

and you are all set

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates

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Posted by [kir](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 14:52:38 GMT

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AndyS wrote on Wed, 04 January 2006 06:09Hello all, just downloaded and installed OpenVZ, and i must say its a big improvement over other VPS systems that i have tested IMHO.

Can you tell which ones have you tried, and why you found OpenVZ better than those?

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates

Posted by [AndyS](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 16:15:40 GMT

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Quote:Can you tell which ones have you tried, and why you found OpenVZ better than those?

Sure. I've tested most that i've come across, since the early days of FreeVSD, including Vserver, FreeVPS and so forth.

The main problem with all systems is **\*\*minor bugs\*\*** - However, if your trying to setup a professional hosting business, these bugs are more like major ones.

I find OpenVZ Much better as its quick to install and setup. I had it installed on a sandbox, 2 templates installed and 5 VPS's up and running in just over an hour.

It appears all VPS report correct stats. e.g, quotas, memory allocaton etc. This was a major problem using VServer.

VPS's remained up and running 2 days after booting them. Luckily their is the --onboot command, but this has not been needed so far. unlike vserver where the --onboot didn't work and i needed to manually boot 2 our of 3 servers manually on a daily bases

Installation of Webmin and Usermin works 100% - Using Vserver and others e.g FreeVPS this was hell to run.

I even got CPANEL installed (i admit, i could not test it as i dont have a licnece, but it installed with minimal errors)

Ones that i've tested since the early days are FreeVPS, OpenVPS, FreeVSD, VServer, UML, Xen to name a few. All have errors from speed through to incorrect stats.

Im not yet up and running with a vps business yet, because of the above errors. Although with OpenVZ this could be possable sometime this year.

One downfall which i was hoping to see in OpenVZ is name-based servers instead of just IP Based. Only because when i start offering VPS i want to offer a 1 week trial. As you can guess, doing so people are going to sign up left right and center, costing me an arm and a leg buying new IP Addys.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [vmvmvm](#) on Sat, 07 Jan 2006 16:30:40 GMT  
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Are named-based VPS really even possible? Do other VPS systems allow them?

It seems to me that http is the only protocol this would work for.

ssh, mail, etc. have no way to determine the host

You can NAT things out over the same IP but I did not know it was possible to do it incoming (unless each VPS is using a different port).

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [phpfreak](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 2006 05:39:57 GMT  
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Here's how I found out how to create some easily customized templates.

1.) create a temporary ve and start it up:  
vzctl create 1000 --ostemplate centos-4-i386-default  
vzctl start 1000  
vzctl enter 1000  
(now type: su -)

2.) Now that you have your VE created, go ahead and make all of your customizations. Install whatever you want, custom compile anything, tweak out the various things you like, install custom firewall scripts etc. Then exit out.

exit  
exit

3.) Shut down the VE  
vzctl stop 1000

4.) Now, cd into the vz private directory on the host:

cd /vz/private/1000

5.) Next, tarball the root of the VE:

tar czpf /vz/template/cache/centos-4-i386-mycoolvz.tar.gz \*

Now your template is ready to go. You can create a new copy of this VE anytime you want. Don't worry about the hostname, IP's or root passwords because you can reset those when you create

a copy of your VE later on.

Here's a tip for you though, something I think works. If you don't name the template tarball such as 'centos-4-i386-xxx' and just name it 'myvz.tar.gz' when you create the VE you'll get a message that it could not find the distro type or something to that effect. That means that it won't use the template inside the centos directory to run the install-pre and install-post items and it won't obey the package lists in the spec files. In other words, it's an easy way to avoid having anything reinstalled on your VE that you uninstalled in your custom setup, when you go to recreate it.

Hope that info helps. I may be smoking crack, but it works well for me

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [vmvmvm](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 2006 06:17:19 GMT  
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Hi,

I've been doing the same thing and it seems to work very well.

However I am curious :

1. are their special openvz files in the filesystem that should also be updated? It seems to work either way...
2. when openvz sets the ip, hostname, etc. is it running commands to do so? Does it just rely on the fact that most linux's will use /etc/resolv.conf for nameservers, etc.?

No real reason for asking - just curious.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [phpfreak](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 2006 06:25:39 GMT  
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Yeah, it runs scripts.

Check out /etc/sysconfig/vz-scripts/dists/scripts

Depending on the distro of your VE, it runs scripts ip\_add.sh ip\_del.sh and such. You can also look in the /etc/sysconfig/vz-scripts/dists directory for a list of distros and what scripts they use

from the scripts directory.

By default i think they use some redhat / centos / fedora variant and it manages to work since I typically use CentOS for anything.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [dev](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 2006 12:51:59 GMT  
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we have Name Based Hosting in Virtuozzo, but it's commercial yet so far (

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [vmvmvm](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 2006 13:49:30 GMT  
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Hi,

Is the named-based just for http or for everything?

Can multiple ve's use the same IP but still have their own ssh, ftp, etc. on standard ports?

I don't see how that would work.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [dev](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 2006 14:40:21 GMT  
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It's for HTTP/FTP/POP3/SMTP.  
each VPS has it's own private IP with HTTP/FTP/SSH daemons.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [kir](#) on Mon, 09 Jan 2006 06:56:27 GMT  
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Quote:Don't worry about the hostname, IP's or root passwords because you can reset those when you create a copy of your VE later on.

Minor remark: it is even better to get rid of it before you create a tarball. Just do something like  
vzctl set NNNN --ipdel all --save  
vzctl exec NNNN usermod -L root  
before doing 'vzctl stop' in your example

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [kir](#) on Mon, 09 Jan 2006 07:21:43 GMT  
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vmvmvm wrote on Sun, 08 January 2006 09:17

1. are their special openvz files in the filesystem that should also be updated? It seems to work either way...

No. OpenVZ tries to be as much as a real system, so no special stuff is needed. Also, see below

Quote:2. when openvz sets the ip, hostname, etc. is it running commands to do so? Does it just rely on the fact that most linux's will use /etc/resolv.conf for nameservers, etc.?

For doing these operations, vzctl relies on a set of scripts in /etc/sysconfig/vz-scripts/dists/scripts/, and a few configs in the /etc/sysconfig/vz-scripts/dists/. vzctl first gets the value of OSTEMPLATE variable from VPS config file, then reads the appropriate config file, then executes the proper script.

So, for this to work properly, OSTEMPLATE should be set in VPS config (and should be valid, e.g. start from the word 'gentoo' for gentoo-based VPS), and a config file and a set of scripts for this OSTEMPLATE should exist.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates  
Posted by [vmvmvm](#) on Mon, 09 Jan 2006 07:36:19 GMT  
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dev wrote on Sun, 08 January 2006 09:40It's for HTTP/FTP/POP3/SMTP.  
each VPS has it's own private IP with HTTP/FTP/SSH daemons.

Do I understand correctly.

I can have one outside IP (routable) and then accept ftp, ssh, pop3, smtp etc. by domain name and route it to it's own internal IP?

I new this was possible with http due to the HTTP 1.1 host header. However I do not understand how the other protocols know which IP to route it to based on the domain name.

Or do I misunderstand what you mean?

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates

Posted by [dev](#) on Mon, 09 Jan 2006 07:40:11 GMT

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You understand everything correct except for SSH. It doesn't work out of the box for such VPSs. Actually even with ssh it's possible to redirect some predefined users to VPSs, but it won't connect with any credentials configured in VPS, only with those configured by host admin.

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Subject: Re: Existing Templates

Posted by [dev](#) on Mon, 09 Jan 2006 07:41:18 GMT

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I forgot to add, that for FTP and POP3 logins you will have to use full user name (user@domain)

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